Memorandum Office of Jenine Windeshausen Treasurer-Tax Collector



To:

The Board of Supervisors

From:

Jenine Windeshausen, Treasurer-Tax Collector

Date:

April 22, 2014

Subject:

Travel Authorization Legislative Advocacy and Program

Representation Related to the County's mPOWER Program

Action Requested:

Approve travel for Cap to Cap and White House dinner

- Approve out of the state travel for the Treasurer-Tax Collector for legislative advocacy and program representation related the County's mPOWER PACE program to participate in the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Federal Advocacy Program from May 3-7, 2014 at a cost not to exceed \$4,300 related to federal PACE legislation HR 4285 The PACE Protection Act of 2014, and
- 2. Authorize an additional amount not to exceed \$1,000 to participate in the US Department of Energy's Better Buildings Challenge Annual Summit May 7-9, 2014, including an invitation to a dinner at the White House with White House officials hosted by the US Department of Energy.

Background:

The Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce leadership is including a special emphasis on commercial and residential PACE program solutions to Federal Housing Finance Agency issues as part of their federal advocacy platform. In March of this year House Resolution was introduced. Key activities will include meeting with legislative representatives and staff to encourage cosponsorship and support of HR4285. Since January, the Treasurer has worked with other regional leaders from SMUD, PG&E, and other business and government organizations to develop the Clean and Green Energy Technology policy platform and to identify the key federal agencies, congressional members and their staff, and other individuals who are the key stakeholders in finding a solution for both residential land commercial PACE issues.

Other important issues carried by the Clean and Green Policy team include preservation of municipal bond tax-exempt status to ensure low-cost financing for state and local government infrastructure projects; and support and funding for a regional Economic Development grants program.

On June 19th of 2012, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Treasurer-Tax Collector on behalf of mPOWER Placer to execute a no-cost, non-binding agreement, the Better Buildings Challenge Community Partnership Agreement, specifying the commitment of increasing the energy efficiency of 5 million square feet of building space in the Placer County geographic area by 20% by the year 2020. At that time, your Board also authorized the Treasurer-Tax Collector to be the Better Buildings Challenge point of contact. The Better Buildings Challenge is an US Department of Energy program to promote the increase of energy efficiency by 20% by the year 2020. The Challenge has two main elements which are: 1) to benchmark energy consumption of County facilities at a baseline year of 2010 and to document related energy consumption in 2020, and 2) to identify, document, and publicize one showcase project. mPOWER staff has worked with Facility Services staff to document and track energy consumption at County facilities. The retrofit of the Granlibakken Conference Center was identified as the County's showcase project. On March 25th, your Board approved the Granlibakken mPOWER application for up to \$718,184 for various deep retrofits.

The Treasurer-Tax Collector recently received an invitation which was extended to certain Better Buildings Challenge Partners to attend a dinner at the White House on May 7, 2014 with "high level" White House officials which is being hosted by the US Department of Energy. The Treasurer-Tax Collector will already be back in Washington DC with the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce legislative advocacy program related to PACE legislation. The Treasurer- Tax Collector will extend her stay in Washington DC to attend the Better Building Challenge Summit and the White House dinner.

Fiscal Impact:

There is sufficient funding available within the Treasurer Tax Collector's current budget for the cost of participating in the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Federal Advocacy Program and the US Department of Energy Better Buildings Challenge Summit.



COUNTY OF PLACER TRAVEL REQUEST ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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